AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please delete the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 3 and replace it with the following paragraph:

The surgeon may also use tip 24, ventral surface 33, and/or dorsal surface 35 of curved portion 20 to express subretinal fluid, mobilize and/or smooth out retinal folds, unfold retinal tears and/or retinectomy flaps, or help to cause the retina to flatten against the choroid in the proper location. The surgeon may move handle 14 using a "squeegee-like" motion when utilizing dorsal surface 35 for such purposes. The surface of tip 24, as well as ventral surface 33 and dorsal surface 35, are very smooth and have very low friction to avoid damage to the retina. In addition, the surface of tip 24, as well as ventral surface 33 and dorsal surface 35, may be coated with or made from Teflon, silicone, or other friction reducing material to avoid adherence to the retina, retinal pigment epithelium, or choroid. In addition, an optical fiber 78 may be disposed in handle 14 and straight portion 22 so as to terminate in curved portion 20. In this case, curved portion 20 may be formed with a light transmitting window ~~70~~71, or may be formed from a light transmitting plastic, so that instrument 10 can provide intraocular illumination for the surgeon when fiber 78 is operatively coupled to a light source. Such illumination allows the surgeon to hold a microsurgical instrument other than an endoilluminator with his or her other hand, if desired. Such light transmitting window ~~70~~71 or light transmitting plastic are preferably substantially transparent.